

Frisher, T., Kuehr, J., Meinert, R., Karmaus, W., Barth, R., Hermann-Kunz, E., and Urbanek, R., "Maternal Smoking in Early Childhood: A Risk Factor for Bronchial Responsiveness to Exercise in Primary-School Children," Journal of Pediatrics 121(1): 17-22, 1992.

The authors examined the possible relationship between maternal smoking and bronchial hyperresponsiveness in a cohort of 1812 primary-school children in first grade. A standardized free running test was performed on the children. Exposure to maternal smoking was estimated via questionnaire information. The authors reported that bronchial hyperresponsiveness was more common in children of smoking mothers. They reported odds ratios of 2.82 (95% CI: 1.25-6.34) for children reportedly exposed to maternal smoking in the first year of life and 20.55 (95% CI: 2.5-168.9) for asthmatic children reportedly exposed to maternal smoking in the first year of life. However, "current exposure to maternal smoking was associated with less hyperresponsiveness."